Public health: A fellowship in government and community service

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When I became aware of the Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation Summer Fellowship in Government and Community Service, the first thought that crossed my mind was "public health," the perfect amalgamation of medicine, government, and community service. I was excited by the chance to work in this area, and the opportunity to work with Murray Katcher, MD, the Chief Medical Officer for Community Health Promotion at the Wisconsin Division of Public Health.

During the summer, my work focused on a variety of topics: elimination of racial and ethnic disparities in birth outcomes; the use of Perinatal Periods of Risk, a new model for improving birth outcomes; the new Wisconsin Medicaid family planning waiver and access to affordable contraception for low-income Wisconsin women; booster seat use in the Madison Head Start population; and the role of physicians in improving bicycle safety. My time spent on the Family Planning Waiver resulted in an article published in the Maternal and Child Health issue of the Wisconsin Medical Journal and the booster seat and bicycle safety

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References

Editor’s Note: The deadline to apply for the 2003 Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation Summer Fellowship in Government and Community Service is February 15. For more information, contact Renée Reback at 608.442.3720.